

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR:SOV:MLEVITSKY:REH

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P 271502Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185345

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CSCE

SUBJECT: RENTAL OF CARS BY SOVIETS IN US

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED REQUESTS FROM SATRA BELARUS IN MILWAU-
KEE, WISCONSIN, AND HOLLAND COMPANY IN CHICAGO HEIGHTS,
ILLINOIS, FOR PERMISSION FOR LONG-TERM SOVIET COMMERCIAL
VISITORS TO THESE COMPANIES TO OPERATE AUTOMOBILES FOR THEIR
PRIVATE USE. WE ARE CONSIDERING THREE POSSIBILITIES --
1. VISITOR RENTS CAR HIMSELF; 2. COMPANY RENTS CAR FOR HIM;
3. COMPANY ALLOWS VISITOR TO USE COMPANY CAR. US NOTE OF
JULY 26, 1967, STATES THAT QUOTE SOVIET CITIZENS SUBJECT TO
THESE REGULATIONS MAY NOT HIRE UNCHAUFFERED AUTOMOBILES NOR
MAY THEY CHARTER HELICOPTERS OR AIRCRAFT. UNQUOTE

2. IN ORDER TO HANDLE THIS REQUEST WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW
THE CURRENT SOVIET PRACTICE ON AUTOMOBILE RENTAL IN MOSCOW,
LENINGRAD AND, IF POSSIBLE, OTHER CITIES IN WHICH LONG- OR
SHORT-TERM US COMMERCIAL VISITORS RESIDE. WE ARE AWARE THAT
EMBASSY EMPLOYEES AND AMERICAN TOURISTS HAVE, ON OCCASION,
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BEEN ABLE TO RENT UNCHAUFFERED AUTOMOBILES, BUT ARE NOT

CERTAIN THAT THIS APPLIES TO US BUSINESSMEN, EITHER RESIDENT
OR VISITING USSR. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY AND CONGEN VIEWS ON RELA-
TIVE ADVANTAGE TO US BUSINESSMEN AND COMMERCIAL VISITORS
IF RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WERE REACHED WITH SOVIETS ON RENTAL
OF UNCHAUFFERED CARS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AUTOMOBILES, MEETING DELEGATIONS, LEASES
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Draft Date: 27 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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